

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/700,955

Examiner

David J Parsley

Applicant(s)

BOWMAN, ROBERT

Art Unit

3643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment dated 5-4-04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4 and 6-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 04 May 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows: in claim 1 on lines 15-16, "...selectiveeach of a pair of mounting members being..." is deleted.

In claim 11 on lines 15-16, "...selectiveeach of a pair of mounting members being..." is deleted.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the limitations of "...each of said mounting members comprising a plurality of horizontal bores such that said horizontal bores extend through the associated one of said mounting members, each of said mounting portions of said support member comprising a plurality of horizontal apertures such that said horizontal apertures extend through the associated one of said mounting portions, said horizontal bores of each of said mounting members being aligned with said horizontal apertures of the associated one of said mounting portion when said mounting members and said mounting portions are clamping horizontally mounted cleats of the boat, each of a plurality of fasteners being selectively extended through one of said horizontal bores and an aligned one of said

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horizontal apertures such that said fasteners secure said mounting members to said mounting portions to clamp the cleats between said mounting members and said mounting portions of said support member when said mounting members and said mounting portions are clamping horizontally mounted cleats of the boat..." in claims 1 and 10 and the limitations of "...each of said mounting members comprising a plurality of vertical bores such that said vertical bores extend through the associated one of said mounting members, each of said mounting portions of said support member comprising a plurality of vertical apertures such that said vertical apertures extend through the associated one of said mounting portions, said horizontal bores of each of said mounting members being aligned with said vertical apertures of the associated one of said mounting portion when said mounting members and said mounting portions are clamping vertically mounted cleats of the boat, each of a plurality of fasteners being selectively extended through one of said vertical bores and an aligned one of said vertical apertures such that said fasteners secure said mounting members to said mounting portions to clamp the cleats between said mounting members and said mounting portions of said support member when said mounting members and said mounting portions are clamping vertically mounted cleats of the boat.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

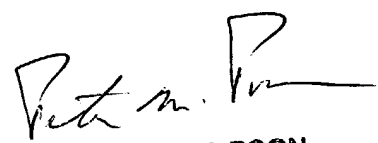
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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David J Parsley whose telephone number is (703) 306-0552. The examiner can normally be reached on 9hr compressed.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Poon can be reached on (703) 308-2574. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


David Parsley
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3643


PETER M. POON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

6/23/04